

D1  
12 encoded at half-rate or greater, at least a portion of the subframes have a zero or  
13 low-level input, and each of the subframes having the zero or low-level input  
14 results in a randomized selection of a codebook excitation vector.

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Sub D2  
C2  
1 5. (Amended) In a computer system having a processor coupled to a bus, a  
2 computer readable memory unit coupled to said bus and having stored therein a  
3 computer program that when executed by said processor causes said computer  
4 system to implement a method of reducing sinusoidal artifact generation in a  
5 vocoder, said method comprising the steps of:  
6 a) receiving a determined input energy threshold value below which a  
7 suspected noise-inducing codebook excitation vector is expected to be generated  
8 by said vocoder; and  
9 b) provided an input signal is received having an energy value lower than  
10 said input energy threshold value, using a selection process to such that said  
11 suspected noise-inducing codebook excitation vector from is not continuously  
12 generated;  
13 wherein the input signal comprises a plurality of subframes, the subframes  
14 encoded at half-rate or greater, at least a portion of the subframes have a zero or  
15 low-level input, and each of the subframes having the zero or low-level input  
16 results in a randomized selection of a codebook excitation vector.

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Sub D3  
C3  
1 9. (Amended) A computer system comprising:  
2 a processor;

3 an address/data bus coupled to said processor;  
4 a computer readable memory coupled to communicate with said  
5 processor, said processor for performing the vocoder sinusoidal artifact  
6 generation reduction steps of:  
7 a) receiving a determined input energy threshold value below which a  
8 suspected noise-inducing codebook excitation vector is expected to be generated  
9 by said vocoder; and  
10 b) provided an input signal is received having an energy value lower than  
11 said input energy threshold value, using a selection process to such that said  
12 suspected noise-inducing codebook excitation vector from is not continuously  
13 generated;  
14 wherein the input signal comprises a plurality of subframes, the subframes  
15 encoded at half-rate or greater, at least a portion of the subframes have a zero or  
16 low-level input, and each of the subframes having the zero or low-level input  
17 results in a randomized selection of a codebook excitation vector.

1 13. (Amended) A method of reducing sinusoidal artifact generation in a vocoder,  
2 said method comprising the steps of:  
3 a) determining an input energy threshold value below which a suspected  
4 noise-inducing codebook excitation vector is expected to be generated by said  
5 vocoder; and  
6 b) provided an input signal is received having an energy value lower than  
7 said input energy threshold value, using a selection process to such that said